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Harrison, J. M.

Harrison's guide and resources  
of the Pacific slope, including  
the territories of Washington  
and Idaho, also, states of Oregon,  
Nevada and California.

San Francisco, 2



Class 1

Book 10





HARRISON'S GUIDE  
AND  
RESOURCES OF THE  
PACIFIC SLOPE,  
INCLUDING THE TERRITORIES OF  
WASHINGTON AND IDAHO,  
ALSO, STATES OF  
OREGON, NEVADA AND CALIFORNIA.

IN FIVE PARTS.

BY J. M. HARRISON.

SAN FRANCISCO:  
*M. D. Carr & Co., Printers, 532 Clay Street,*  
1872.

## INDEX TO PART I.

---

Chehalis River.....	14
Coal Mines.....	29
Clearing Land, cost and mode of.....	26
Cowalitz River.....	16
Climate .....	22
Eastern Washington.....	30
Fair, Mutual Aid.....	20
Fisheries.....	29
General Remarks.....	27
Health .....	23
Kalama.....	20
Lummi River.....	13
Lewis River Country.....	17
Lumber Trade.....	29
Lands, Public, how to obtain them.....	23
Naselle River.....	16
Olympia .....	17
Port Townsend.....	19
Productions.....	21
Routes and Distances.....	34
Shoalwater Bay .....	15
Steilacoom .....	18
Seattle.....	19
Tumwater .....	18
Vancouver.....	20
Willapah River.....	15
Wallawalla Valley.....	32
Yakima River.....	31

526

# HARRISON'S GUIDE AND RESOURCES OF THE PACIFIC SLOPE.

PART I,

EMBRACING

## WASHINGTON TERRITORY,

GIVING A MINUTE DESCRIPTION OF ITS LANDS AND FACILITIES  
FOR SETTLEMENT, LAND LAWS, CLIMATE,  
RESOURCES, ETC.

BY J. M. HARRISON.

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PART I.

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WASHINGTON TERRITORY

Is divided by the Cascade range of mountains into two grand divisions which are generally known as Eastern and Western. It is bounded on the north by the Straits of Fuca and British Columbia; on the west by the Pacific Ocean; on the south by the Columbia river, following from its mouth the middle of the main channel to a point near Wallulu, from thence, on the forty-sixth parallel of latitude to Snake river, down Snake river to the mouth of Clearwater, and from thence due north (on the line joining Idaho) to the British line—being about 345 miles east and west, and 230 miles from north to south, embracing a total area of 69,994 square miles. Its present population is about 30,000.

That portion lying west of the Cascade mountains is mostly covered by a heavy forest, composed principally of fir, cedar, hemlock and spruce. Oak is found on the border of most of the prairies, but for mechanical purposes is considered much inferior to the Eastern oak. There are also alder, ash, maple, cottonwood, vine maple, crab-apple, dogwood, elder, willow, hazel, etc., etc.

ITS GENERAL TOPOGRAPHY.

In the northwestern portion of the Territory the Olympic range of mountains rear their lofty peaks. In the southwest part, bordering on the Columbia river and lying back of the

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coast, a considerable portion of the country is quite rugged and mountainous. Lying between the two above named sections and the Cascade mountains (with the exception of an occasional spur of the Cascade range of mountains) the country is comparatively level and interspersed by numerous valleys of great fertility.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF ITS AGRICULTURAL AND GRAZING LANDS.

FIRST THE HIGH LANDS—are in places broken and hilly but much of it is table land and gently undulating. In the northern portion of the Territory these lands are generally more or less gravelly and granite boulders are occasionally seen, in the southern part it is mostly free of gravel. In the former, a sandy loam; in the latter, a clay loam.

The timber consists principally of fir, cedar and hemlock; there is also vine maple, soft maple, willow, alder, elder, cherry, dogwood, crab-apple, hazel, etc., etc. In many places these lands have been nearly denuded of timber by the numerous fires that have passed through it.

#### SECONDLY—THE BOTTOM LANDS.

Composed of an alluvial soil, highly productive, yielding astonishing crops of vegetables, hay and grain. These bottom lands are mostly covered with a growth of vine maple, soft maple, ash, alder, elder crab-apple and salmon berry, with an occasional fir, spruce or cedar. Near and in vicinity of the tide lands considerable spruce is found. These bottoms are comparatively easily cleared and are at present considered the most desirable locations for settlement.

#### THIRDLY—TIDE LANDS AND FLATS.

They are usually covered with a heavy growth of grass and furnish large quantities of hay and pasturage for stock; much of them are free of timber or undergrowth. Then there is what is termed in this section beaver-dam land, where small streams, running through flats, are dammed by the beaver—causing them to be partially overflowed. These lands, usually, have but little timber on them (mostly willow, hard-hack, rose-bush, crab apple) and, when drained, are of superior quality.

As we will hereafter often refer to these several kinds of land before-mentioned, the reader will please bear in mind our description of each, under its proper head. But, before proceeding further, we will refer to that magnificent and beautiful sheet of water known as Puget Sound. Vice President Colfax, in the *Independent*, very truly says:

“No one who has not been there can realize the beauty of Puget Sound and its surroundings. One hundred miles long, but so full of inlets and straits that its navigable shore line measures 1,760 miles; dotted with lovely islets, with gigantic trees almost to the water’s edge; with safe anchorage everywhere and stretching southward, without shoals or bars, from the Straits of Fuca to the capital and centre of Washington Territory, it will be a magnificent entrepot for the commerce of that grandest ocean of the world—the Pacific.”

There is, perhaps, no sheet of water in the world better situated for commerce than that of Puget Sound. Being accessable at all times by the largest class of shipping, as long as a vessel can live at sea, she can enter this haven; no matter from what direction the winds may blow, she can here find shelter.

On its shores are magnificent forests. In its waters and coasts to the northward, fish abound in great variety. Vast deposits of coal lie adjacent and convenient for shipping. Considerable bodies of choice agricultural land are of easy access. These, together with the completion of the Northern Pacific Railroad, are soon destined to build up a vast trade in this part of the world.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PRINCIPAL RIVERS EMPTYING INTO PUGET SOUND  
TOGETHER WITH THE LANDS ADJOINING, ETC.

All the rivers of any considerable size, emptying into Puget Sound, take their rise in the Cascade range of mountains. The first of these, and near the head of the Sound, is Nisqually river. It takes its rise in Mt. Ranier; most of its course is through a mountainous region to within about twenty miles of its mouth; for that distance there are some bottom lands; also table land adjoining. Choice lands are quite limited on this stream. We saw some very fine maple timber on it. There are some considerable prairies in this vicinity, and south of Olympia, of a loose, sandy soil, generally gravelly, and mostly used for grazing purposes.

These prairies continue for about eight miles north of Steila-

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coom, where we come into open highlands; mostly fir, some cedar, considerable fern and sal-lal; surface gently undulating. This continues for a few miles to where we come in vicinity of the

#### PUYALLUP RIVER.

Here the country begins to widen out, the mountains keeping further back. The bottom lands along it are of considerable extent. An Indian reservation is located at its mouth which includes about one township of land. This river is connected (by a small stream called the Stuck) with White river; a small portion of the latter stream passes into the Puyallup by way of the Stuck. Considerable beaver dam and bottom land on the Stuck.

#### WHITE RIVER

Is a stream of considerable size which empties into Elliot Bay; it has a whitish color, caused by an ashy-colored substance brought down by it from Mt. Ranier. Below its junction with Black river it goes by the name of Duwamish river, and is navigable (including the Duwamish) for small steamers about forty miles. There is a large amount of bottom land on this stream and its tributaries. The lower part of the river is now settled. Up near the mountains are some prairies and open country of considerable extent that is yet vacant, but on account of its proximity to the mountains is somewhat colder and more subject to frost than below.

#### LAKE WASHINGTON

Is a beantiful sheet of fresh water lying back of Seattle about two miles. It is about twenty-five miles long and from two to four miles in width; its outlet is by way of Black and Duwamish rivers, the former connecting it with the latter stream and giving an outlet for barges and small boats from the lake to the sound. There is much valuable timber land in the vicinity of this lake; near its outlet are some very good farming lands (bottom land.) Extensive coal mines are being developed near its eastern shore. The coal appears to be of superior quality and extensive preparations are now being made to ship it to San Francisco. Surveys have recently been made of this lake, near its northern end, with a view of connecting it (by a ship canal) with tide water.

In traveling north from Seattle, till we reached the Snohomish

river, we saw but little land suitable for agricultural purposes, although we would occasionally see some patches of very good bottom and beaver lands. The highlands were more gravelly than usual. On approaching the Snohomish river, passed through some magnificent cedar timber; cedars that would girth from twelve to thirty feet and measure one hundred to one hundred and fifty feet to the first limb were quite common. The fir, also, attained a prodigious size.

#### THE SNOHOMISH RIVER

Makes its debouchure into Port Gardner by three different outlets; the tide flows up it about twenty miles, and it is navigable for small steamers, sloops and schooners for that distance. A few miles above this are some rapids (the Indians pole their canoes over them) for a short distance and then there is good water again to the Snoqualmie falls, a distance of thirty miles above the head of tide water. The Snoqualmie falls are 270 feet high. Above these falls a few miles is Snoqualmie prairie, with good soil and a considerable settlement. Its altitude makes it somewhat colder; in winter snow falls from one to two feet in depth but does not usually lie long. The wagon road leading from Seattle and over the Cascade mountains to Yakima and Eastern Washington passes through this prairie. The Skykomish, from the north, and the Snoqualmie, from the east, intersect and are known as Snohomish river below their confluence. About the mouth of this stream and north of it (back of the Tulalip Indian reservation) are extensive tide lands and flats, also, beaver dam lands, that are only partially occupied. Some of the best of these lands are at present a little difficult to get at on account of there being no roads into them. For some four miles up from the mouth of the river the land is low and is sometimes overflowed during extreme high tides; much of it is covered with spruce for that distance, after which the banks are higher. It is mostly settled, near its banks, for a short distance above the head of tide water. Snohomish City is situated on a high bank, some two miles below the head of tide water, and on the north side of the river; it contains two stores, a post-office and about a dozen dwelling houses. A steamer makes weekly trips from Seattle to this place. We here examined some garden, back of town, and were astonished at finding such large growth on the

highlands. We saw corn standing over eleven feet high; there were, also, potatoes, cabbage, beets, tomatoes, strawberry, squash and other vines—all of very fine growth. The bottom lands on the Snohomish average about five miles in width; up the Snoqualmie and Skykomish, they become narrower but are of considerable extent; at present very little of either is settled, the settlement being mostly confined to the river bank, from near its mouth to the head of tide water. During extreme high water (usually about the month of January) these bottoms are partially overflowed, but seldom longer than a day or two at a time. This is the case with pretty much all the larger streams putting into the Sound.

There is considerable logging done in this vicinity. After there is a sufficient number of logs collected in a boom they are towed, by steamer, to some of the mills on the Sound.

#### THE STILAGUAMISH RIVER

Enters Port Susan near its northern end, and is a much smaller stream than the Snohomish, but, like it, there is a large amount of tide land in the vicinity of its mouth which produces a heavy growth of bunch grass of very fine quality.

Many have commenced diking, some thinking they would prefer diking to going up further to get higher land where they would have to clear it off—much of this tide land being entirely free of brush. We were informed that although cattle thrrove well on this tide land pasture, cows did not produce the same amount of butter on salt water marsh that they did on fresh water marsh. It is believed that diking—never allowing the salt water on it—will remedy that matter. This stream is navigable for considerable sized boats to a jam of huge trees lying across the channel about eight miles from its mouth. The tide flows about a mile above the jam.

Coal of a good quality has been found about twelve miles from its mouth. The bottom lands are from one to two miles in width, extending up to the mountains, and are not so subject to overflow as on larger streams. No settlement yet above the jam.

The country between this stream and the Snohomish, on the south, and Skadget, on the north, consists principally of table land, heavily timbered, of a yellow, sandy loam, some gravel, and in many places are flats of a black, vegetable loam. Be-

tween the Stilaguamish and Skadget, and about north of the former stream, are thousands of acres burned over; nearly all the large timber burned up, so that it could be easily cleared. Briers, fern, willow and other small growth have commenced growing on it; soil generally good. It does one good to see (and still more to eat) such fine vegetables as they raise on these river bottoms; the potatoes so mealy, white and fine flavored, the cabbage so tender; indeed, we don't see why they are not shipped to San Franeisco so that people there would know what a really good potatoe tastes like. But we suppose the reason they are not so shipped is, the people are not here to raise them.

## THE SKADGET RIVER

Is the largest body of fresh water putting into the Sound. It takes its source in British Columbia and has a southwestern course, through rugged and lofty mountains, to within about seventy miles of its mouth. About thirty miles from its mouth, Baker river, a stream of considerable size enters it from the east. Some ten miles above its mouth is a jam, or rather two jams, (there being a space between them of about half a mile) consisting of a mass of immense trees lying athwart the channel which seem to be afloat, rising and falling with the tide. We saw trees thirty or forty feet in height that had grown on the top of this debris! The citizens in that vicinity have petitioned the Legislature to memorialize Congress for an appropriation to remove the jam. The river seems to have a good depth of water for a long way up; the jam being removed it is believed good sized boats could ascend without difficulty for about sixty miles from its mouth. Then, this jam causes the river to overflow during high water and when removed, as it certainly soon will be, a large section of rich country will be opened up. Above the jam the river, for about twenty miles, keeps nearly parallel with, and from eight to twelve miles from, the coast—the intermediate space being mostly bottom land, fresh water marsh, tide land, and flats, with here and there a low butte or ridge of high land, like islands, above the common level. The lowest ground is generally free of timber; usually a good growth of grass with patches of willow, hard-haek, rose bush and, about the border of the high ground, crab apple on which great numbers of pheas-

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ants were feeding; also, saw much bear sign when we were in that section.

These tide lands, when not too low or cut up with sloughs, are very desirable. One objection to some of them is the difficulty of obtaining fresh water for stock; this objection would only apply to a portion of them. From the mouth of the Snohomish, north to the mouth of Samish river (with the exception of a few miles bordering on Port Susan and north of Tulalip bay), these tide lands are quite extensive, usually from two to three miles in width, but sometimes widening out to five or six miles. These flats have been made by the sediment brought down, by the different rivers flowing into the Sound, from the Cascade range of mountains. During the past summer, in June last, a portion of the Skadget, in two or three places, ran across this low country, the upper channel emptying into the Samish, which was the first instance of the kind ever known to the whites. The jam in the river below had, no doubt, something to do with it. This river, the source and meanderings of which are among high and lofty mountains covered with snow, is, during the fore part of summer, liable to freshets. We found the settlement confined to the bank of the river below the jam; two settlers had made locations eight miles above, where the bottoms appeared less liable to overflow. For some distance the river was fringed with cottonwood of very large growth; pretty well up are some prairies. Although there is known to be better locations further back, the immigrant usually takes the first he comes to or the easiest to get at. There being no roads in this section (back into the interior) makes it rather expensive for a poor man to cut a road in, but if five or six, or more, persons join together to cut a road back it would be less burdensome and a choice location could be secured. The only way at present to approach this section is by water; there are steamers, of various sizes, running to all the different points on the Sound, from Olympia, Seattle and Victoria, B. C. Some roads have been commenced, others projected, and as the country settles these conveniences will follow. There is probably room for over a thousand families to obtain homes on and in vicinity of the Skadget. The next stream north, of any considerable size, is the

## LUMMI OR NOOTSAK RIVER.

Has its principal outlet into Bellingham Bay, on the north side, a portion of it flowing into the Gulf of Georgia. This stream is also obstructed to some extent by drifts near its outlet. These drifts or jams we have noticed are usually about where the river current meets the lunar tides—causing a reflux in their motion—where they soon become fixed or stationary. Upon the obstructions at its mouth being removed this stream might be navigated with small boats for about thirty miles. On and in the vicinity of this river is another large body of choice agricultural land, extending from Bellingham Bay to the British line, and back east of the coast for about twenty miles, including about ten townships, or 230,400 acres of land, which consists of bottom land, tide land, beaver dam and some high land; no great amount of it subject to overflow. There is also less tide land, otherwise it is much the same as we have heretofore been describing. There are now about fifty families in this section, the most of them having come in recently. They are mostly located near the mouth of the Lummi and back of Semiahmoo, a small town situated on a fine harbor near the boundary line.

Until recently there has been but few white families in this section—including the three last described rivers; the population heretofore being mostly of a heterogeneous character, consisting of sailors, adventurers, miners, etc., of all nationalities. This class of people would squat down on some of the numerous inlets along the Sound, build a cabin and plant a small patch of potatoes; logging some occasionally to get money to buy whisky; a large portion of their time being spent in card playing and carousing; many of them keeping Indian women, some raising large families by them. Although most of them were of a rather rough class, we were hospitably treated wherever we went. Since white families have commenced coming in, we noticed that most of this class were anxious to sell, often offering their places very low. For the past eighteen months a different class of people have been coming into this part—men of families, of industrious and temperate habits—and we may soon expect to see a thriving community in this section of the country.

## THE CHEHALIS RIVER

Takes its rise about east of Shoalwater Bay and thirty miles north of the Columbia river. After running east about twenty miles, receives the Newaukum, after which it takes a northerly course to its confluence with Skukum Chuck. Both of these last named rivers come from the east and head in the foot hills of the Cascade mountains, between the Cowalitz and Nisqually rivers. A short distance below the mouth of Skukum Chuck it takes a westerly course to Grey's Harbor—its mouth not being over forty miles in a direct course from its head source—but by its meanderings is over one hundred miles. This river, from its mouth to within a few miles of its head source, passes through a rich agricultural region; its bottoms are of a rich vegetable loam, and are usually from one to two miles in width. The high lands adjoining, especially on the upper part of the river, possess good soil, generally free of gravel. Much of these high lands are quite open, the timber having been burned up by the numerous fires that have passed through it. There is considerable grass in these openings, also, wild peas from two to four feet high. These wild peas are common all through this timbered country; cattle are very fond of them. There are also blackberry, thimble berry, elder, hazel and cherry. Although in places considerably broken, a large portion of it is comparatively level and suitable for farming, and the more broken for grazing purposes. There is a considerable amount of this kind of land on the south side of the Chehalis and between the Newaukum river and Boiseforte prairie; it is easy of access to roads and good settlements and tolerably well watered. Up the south fork of the Chehalis and above the Boiseforte prairie, are some bottom lands of considerable extent that are not settled. There are several natural prairies lying between Skukum Chuck and Black river, but they are generally gravelly and mostly used for grazing purposes. The lands lying immediately on the Chehalis are nearly all taken up and settled, but on its tributaries and back on the high lands can be found many valuable locations and generally of easy access.

The entrance to Grey's Harbor is about three-fourths of a mile in width; there is about eighteen feet of water on the bar. It is considered a safe harbor. On the borders of this harbor

are extensive tide flats, and south of it, to Shoalwater Bay and back of the coast, are extensive cranberry marshes. The tide sets up the Chehalis to the mouth of the Satsop; good sized schooners can navigate it to Montezano, about eighteen miles from the mouth of the harbor, and small steamers can ascend seventy-five miles for about eight months in the year. About Grey's Harbor much of the land has been bought up by speculators which retards the settlement in that direction very much.

#### SHOALWATER BAY.

The entrance to Shoalwater Bay is eighteen miles south of Grey's Harbor and twenty-seven miles north of the mouth of the Columbia river; it is of an oblong shape, its southern arm stretching south, parallel with the coast, to within about four miles of Baker's Bay on the Columbia. On the peninsula and western shore of the bay, about six miles from its entrance, is the town of Oysterville, the county seat of Pacific county. It contains two stores, two hotels, one saloon, one smith shop, one jewelry shop and one tannery. On the east side of the bay, and nearly opposite the entrance to the harbor, is the town of Bruceport, whose inhabitants are principally engaged in the oyster business; it contains about thirty houses, one store, one saloon and a hotel. The principal oyster beds lie in front of this place and furnish employment for a considerable number of men. The chief part of the oysters obtained on this coast come from Shoalwater Bay; several fast sailing schooners are kept constantly plying between here and San Francisco in the oyster business. There is considerable amount of tide land bordering on the bay and about the mouths of the small streams entering it. The country lying back, a few miles east of the Bay, is mostly broken and mountainous.

#### THE WILLAPAH RIVER

Is the largest and most important stream emptying into Shoalwater Bay. It is about thirty-five miles in length; the tide sets up about fifteen miles, and is navigable for good sized schooners for that distance. About four miles from its mouth is a large lumber mill in operation. The bottom lands are taken up and settled for about fifteen miles above its mouth, and extend about fifteen miles further up including several small prairies of excel-

lent land; much of these bottom lands would be very easy cleared. We saw some of the finest cherry trees, and the most of them, here, that we have ever seen on this coast—many of them measuring from twelve to eighteen inches in diameter—also very tall and slender. On the south fork of Willapah there is a considerable amount of bottom land; also, between it and main Willapah, some high lands that have had the timber burnt off—all open for settlement.

#### THE NASCELLE RIVER

Enters Shoalwater Bay near its southern end. This stream is about as long as the Willapah, but does not have so many tributaries as the latter stream. This river heads back of Cementville, on the Columbia river, and is navigable for about fifteen miles from its mouth. Its bottoms are of a rich black loam with some prairie land. A few families settled on this stream the past summer and have opened a road to Cementville, on the Columbia river. There is probably room on this stream and its vicinity for one hundred families to find good locations.

#### THE COWALITZ RIVER

Is the chief river flowing into the Columbia from Western Washington. Its length is about one hundred miles, and it is a bold, rapid stream to within a few miles of its confluence with the Columbia. Steamboats ascend it regularly to Monticello, some three miles from its mouth and canoes navigate it to Cowalitz prairie, some forty miles above. There is an extensive bottom, reaching from the Columbia for about ten miles, up to where the Cowalitz emerges from the highland, which is covered with fine farms; the lower portion of it is subject to overflow during the annual June freshets of the Columbia, and freshets occasionally occur on the Cowalitz in the winter months, doing some damage on the low bottoms. The bottoms and some of the high lands on the lower part of the river, especially on the east side, are quite sandy. These low bottom lands are well adapted for dairying purposes, the grass growing green all summer. Here is a belt of country, ranging from thirty to forty miles in width, extending from the Columbia river to within a few miles of Olympia, on the Sound. On approaching within fifteen or twenty miles of Olympia considerable gravel is found,

especially on the prairies. Although having a diversified surface fully three-fourths of it is well adapted for agricultural purposes; the high lands are of a clay loam; the bottom lands, along the numerous water courses passing through it, are of a black, vegetable loam. These highlands are generally open, only a small portion being heavily timbered. There is a considerable amount of beaver dam land in the northern end of this belt; also considerable grass and pea-vine all through it. It is well watered. There is now something over half of this section vacant (including the odd sections granted to the N. P. Railroad Co.) and subject to settlement. This belt, together with the spurs or off-shoots putting out from it in different directions, includes the largest body of agricultural land to be found in Western Washington. Some of the best of these lands lie west of the stage road leading from Pumphreys to Claquato, and all will, no doubt, settle up rapidly as the railroad progresses through it.

There is also a large extent of good agricultural land bordering on and north of the Columbia river, including Lewis river, Salmon creek and Washougal river, extending up the Columbia from Lewis river to the Cascades of the Columbia, being quite narrow for a few miles below the Cascades but widening out as you approach Lewis river where it is twenty-five or thirty miles in width. The lands in this section are much the same as those last described and are principally settled; it being the most convenient and the first the immigrant came to has caused it to be settled more rapidly.

## OLYMPIA.

Taken from the *Pacific Tribune*: This city, the capital of Washington Territory, is built on Budd's Inlet, the head of steamboat navigation on Puget Sound. Its population has materially increased in the past year, and now exceeds sixteen hundred. It contains about three hundred and fifty dwelling houses, four churches, one telegraph station, one post office, one public and three private schools, three hotels, a Town Hall, a Masonic Lodge, a Good Templars' and an Odd Fellows' Hall, one public library and reading room, a jail, a bank and a bath house. Here the Governor, the Territorial Secretary, the Surveyor General, the Register and Receiver of the Land Office and the Superintendent of Indian Affairs have their offices. The city contains four printing offices and prints one daily and four weekly papers.

There are also two wharves and one brickyard. In the trades

there are two plumbers, a dozen bricklayers, a small regiment of builders and carpenters, several house and sign painters, and five wall paperers. It also contains the following stores and shops:

2 hardware,	6 dry goods,
9 groceries,	2 bakeries,
1 tea and spices,	3 boots and shoes,
1 milliner,	2 druggists,
5 saloons,	2 cabinet makers,
4 tailors,	3 barbers,
1 furrier,	2 watchmakers,
1 steam saw mill,	2 paint shops,
1 lumber yard,	3 meat markets,
2 cattle dealers,	2 livery stables,
4 blacksmiths,	1 stove and tin shop,
2 wagon makers,	1 gunsmith,
1 boat builder,	2 nurserymen,
4 green grocers,	1 cooper shop,
5 laundries,	2 cornice moulders,
1 plaster medallion maker,	1 foundry and machine shop.

The professions are represented by three clergymen, three physicians, a legion of lawyers, one dentist, three architects, and several engineers and draughtsmen.

Among our active institutions are a Fire Engine Company, a Hook and Ladder Company and a Base Ball Club.

We have no mendicants and no need of an almshouse. Our physicians live on the good prices paid them by the grateful parents of our rapidly increasing youth. If they depended on attending the sick for subsistence, they would starve. Our druggists do well on dyestuffs (not stuff to keep from dying) and knicknacks, or they would have to shut up shop. We have a healthy, happy, progressive town, with plenty of work and play for everybody.

#### TUMWATER\*

Is a thriving little place of about two hundred and fifty inhabitants, situated on the Deschutes where the river has a fall of eighty-five feet in three hundred yards, just above where it empties into the head of Budd's Inlet, and two miles from Olympia. There is here a large saw and planing mill, a grist mill, a water pipe and furniture manufactory. It is well situated for manufacturing purposes.

#### STEILACOOM

Is the county seat of Pierce county and is eligibly situated on the Sound, just south of the "Narrows," and contains about three hundred and fifty inhabitants. The Penitentiary and In-

\*An Indian name, signifying Falling Waters.

sane Asylum are located here. There are some prairies just back of this place, generally gravelly, with but a small portion of them suitable for farming purposes.

#### PORT TOWNSEND

Is situated on a spacious harbor near the outlet of Admiralty Inlet into the Straits of Fuca. The Custom House and Marine Hospital for Puget Sound District are located here. It is also the county seat of Jefferson county and contains about five hundred inhabitants.

#### SEATTLE

Is situated on a gentle slope of high land fronting on Elliot's Bay and contains about sixteen hundred inhabitants. The Territorial University is located here and is one of the finest buildings in the Territory. There are also four churches, one large public school building, several hotels, a tannery, two drug stores, quite a number of dry goods, grocery and provision stores—two or three of which do a wholesale business, (having lost our notes in regard to this thriving place we cannot state the exact number); also two newspaper offices, the *Weekly Intelligencer* and *Seattle Times*. There are many fine dwellings, with orchards, gardens and walks laid off in a tasteful manner, adding greatly to the beauty of the place. A large lumber mill is in successful operation here. Probably over half the lumber mills on the Sound are situated within a radius of thirty miles of this place for which it is a kind of central or distributing point. Several steamers are kept constantly plying between this point and the different mills and logging camps on the Sound. South and east of Seattle is found, on the Duwamish, White and Cedar rivers, a large section of agricultural lands, most of it of easy access both by land and water, which adds greatly to the trade of this place. The Lake Washington coal mines, a few miles back, are now being developed, and a tramway laid over which the coal is to be transported and shipped at this place, which will add still more to the wealth of this locality.

Taking it altogether, Seattle presented the most business-like aspect of any town we saw on the Sound.

## VANCOUVER,

The county seat of Clark county, is situated on the north bank of the Columbia river, one hundred and ten miles from its mouth, and contains about one thousand inhabitants. Large size, ocean vessels can ascend the river without difficulty to this place. A large section of good agricultural land lies adjacent and it bids fair to soon become a place of considerable importance.

The Government barracks and military headquarters of the Department of the Columbia are situated just outside of town. The officers' quarters and other buildings, with fine fences and nicely laid-off walks, together with the beautiful surrounding scenery, give the place a picturesque appearance.

## KALAMA

Contains about five hundred inhabitants, and owes its chief importance in its being the present terminus of the N. P. Railroad on the Columbia river. The N. P. Railroad Company have a saw mill and machine shop here. There is, also, a newspaper office. The town is situated on the Columbia, six miles above the mouth of the Cowalitz river, on a narrow bottom about two hundred yards wide, back of which a bluff rises about one hundred and fifty feet high.

## MUTUAL AID FAIR AND REMARKS ON THE PRODUCTIONS OF WESTERN WASHINGTON.

It happened to be our good fortune to be present at the Mutual Aid Fair, held at Olympia on the 6th and 7th of October, 1871. Considering the short notice given and its being the first of the kind held in the Territory, it was a decided success and a credit to the getters-up. We take the following from our notes of the principal articles exhibited: Corn in the stalk, twelve to thirteen feet high; seven varieties of wheat; five of oats; two of millet; one of buckwheat; one of barley; two of corn; one of hops and several varieties of grass seed. Stalks of wheat and oats six feet long with very heavy heads. Potatoes, onions, turnips, cabbage, carrots and beets, in great variety and of the best quality. Also tomatoes, squashes, melons, cucumbers, beans and peas in the pod, all of fine growth. In the fruit line there were apples in great variety that could hardly be excelled

(saw some that measured fifteen inches in circumference), pears in great variety, also plums, cranberrys, grapes and peaches. These last two articles, although not very well adapted for this climate, were of very fair quality. Some apples were exhibited in very good condition that had been picked the year before. We saw some butter of superior quality, although we noticed some that was not thoroughly worked. Saw mutton that would tempt a Falstaff. There were also honey, a great variety of preserved fruits, flour and bread as white as the driven snow; coal, and limestone from Cypress Island. A number of articles of the mechanical trades were on exhibition. The ladies, also, were well represented in their handiwork. There were also flowers and shrubbery in great profusion. Our space does not permit going into details of all the interesting things we saw on exhibition as we otherwise would like to do.

The samples of grain on exhibition were a subject of remark (especially by new comers) for its plumpness, large kernel and fine appearance—all acknowledging that they never saw anything equal to it in the Atlantic States. One sample of wheat was from a field of twenty-six acres, yielding twelve hundred bushels, and raised, with ordinary cultivation, by Mr. Smith on the Chehalis river. These bottom lands usually yield from thirty to forty bushels of wheat, and from forty to sixty of oats, to the acre and very often a great deal more. Along near the coast where it is more foggy the farmer is often troubled to get it properly cured for threshing, but out ten or twenty miles from the coast they are seldom troubled in that way.

A large portion of the high lands are well adapted for the production of about all kinds of small grain but will not yield as largely as the bottom lands. Potatoes thrive and yield exceedingly well. They are, also, of superior flavor, being dry and mealy. On the bottom lands they usually yield from two hundred to four hundred bushels, and sometimes six or seven hundred bushels, to the acre. To one who has never seen them taken out of the ground this seems almost incredible, but the soil and climate combined are just what is wanted to bring this esculent to its highest perfection. Corn is not raised much, only in gardens for table use, the summers being rather cool for it to mature in season.

Fruit, such as apples, pears, plums, cherries, gooseberries,

currants and strawberries, thrive exceedingly well. There are also a great variety of wild berries; among the best and most plentiful, and to be found almost everywhere, is the blackberry or dewberry. There are also the raspberry, several kinds of whortleberries, cranberry, sallalberry, thimbleberry, salmonberry and elderberry.

Timothy, clover, and all the grasses adapted to this climate, thrive and yield largely. This is emphatically a grass country—the climate and everything else favoring it. The farmers generally report cutting from two and a half to three and a half tons of timothy to the acre. After taking off their hay they usually pasture their meadows for some time, there being generally sufficient moisture to keep the grass growing after the hay is taken off.

#### CLIMATE.

We believe it is generally understood that the climate is much milder on the Pacific than the Atlantic coast in the same latitude. Washington Territory, although situated within the 46th and 49th degrees, north latitude, has, during the winter season, about the same temperature as Norfolk, Virginia, ten degrees further south. Meteorological observations taken at Fort Stilacoom in latitude 47 deg. 7 min. north, for a series of years give the following result: Mean of four years: January, 38 deg. 1 min.; February, 40 deg. 7 min.; March, 41 deg. 8 min.; April, 48 deg. 6 min.; May, 56 deg. 6 min.; June, 61 deg. 1 min.; July, 64 deg. 9 min.; August, 64 deg. 0 min.; September, 56 deg. 9 min.; October, 52 deg. 6 min.; November, 46 deg. 2 min.; December 38 deg. 3 min. There is seldom any extreme heat during the summer months. According to the above meteorological observations the average temperature of the three summer months was 63 deg. 0 min.

The following, from the United States Coast Survey, taken at different points on the Sound, will give a still more definite idea of the meteorological phenomena of this section: Three spring months of 1869: clear, 59; foggy, 5; rainy, 29; amount of rainfall, 3.756. Summer: light showers—rain guage not in use; highest temperature for June, 94 deg.; lowest, 42 deg. 3 min. Three fall months: clear, 33; foggy, 8; rainy, 38; amount rainfall, 14.123; mean temperature, 55 deg. Three winter months,

1869-70: clear, 19; foggy, 21; rainy, 49; amount of rainfall, 19.752; mean temperature, 42 deg. Three spring months: amount of rainfall, 6.058; snow, three days in March. June: clear, 21; rainy, 9; amount of rainfall, 0.431; mean temperature, 62 deg.

The water courses seldom freeze over and in ordinary winters wild flowers in full bloom can be found at any time. Once in four or five years there is an unusual cold winter, the snow lying on the ground for three or four weeks, and in one instance—the winter of 1862—the ground was covered with snow for about two months.

#### HEALTH.

The general health of the country is good and will compare favorably with any other portion of the United States. Fever and ague are unknown, except to a limited extent on the Columbia river and lower Yakima, and even there, when it occurs, is generally of a very mild type yielding very readily to the proper remedies. We believe a humid atmosphere is not considered favorable for those of a consumptive tendency, and for that reason the climate of western Washington might be detrimental to such, but the eastern portion of this Territory, being a high, dry climate, is considered highly favorable for those having weak lungs. Some cases have come under our own observation of persons, far gone, who recovered, beyond their most sanguine expectations, by a change to that section.

#### THE PUBLIC LANDS AND HOW TO OBTAIN THEM.

Persons desiring to get Government land should select their locality, go to the district office and get plats made out of a few townships, then with these go out and get some settler to help you look out a piece to suit you. You then go to the office and make your entry, after which in homestead cases, you are allowed six months in which to establish your home upon the land and no one can interfere with you during that time. Of the homestead entries made, many are abandoned, the entries canceled and the land again entered by others. To get an entry canceled it is only necessary to make proof, after filing the proper affidavit and giving thirty days' notice, of six months' abandonment, so that every person who holds a claim under the

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Homestead Act must occupy it in good faith as a home. Upon double minimum land, or land within railroad limits, every person being the head of a family, or single and over the age of 21 years (this applies to female as well as male persons) are entitled to pre-empt one quarter-section (160 acres) at the Government price of \$2.50 per acre, proof and payment to be made within one year from the date of settlement. The proof required is the testimony of one witness that the applicant has had a bona fide residence on the land for six months, and has cultivated and improved the same. There is also required an affidavit of the applicant that he is not the owner of 320 acres of land in any State or Territory of the United States, that he is not pre-empting the land for the purpose of speculation, or for the benefit of any person except himself, and that he has not heretofore had the benefit of the pre-emption law.

The above is true with regard to all pre-emptions except that the applicant will pay the price at which the land applied for is held by the Government, whether \$1.25 per acre, minimum, or \$2.50 per acre, double minimum, and except further, where the land has not been offered at public sale. The time in which payment is required to be made is thirty-three months from the date of settlement. The same conditions as to age, etc., apply in the case of homestead as in pre-emption entries, and any such person can enter as a homestead not to exceed one quarter-section of \$1.25 per acre land by paying \$10 fees and \$4 commissions at the time of entry. Upon \$2.50 per acre land any person who served in the war of 1861, for ninety days, and was honorably discharged, can take one quarter-section by the payment of \$10 fees and \$8 commissions; all others can take but 80 acres each by payment of \$10 fees and \$4 commissions. Persons who have resided six months upon their homesteads and while residing thereon can, if they desire, by making such proof as would be required in pre-emption cases, prove up and pay for the land at the Government price. After the five years' residence upon a homestead the claimant is allowed two years in which he may appear at the district office, with two witnesses, and prove up and perfect his title, upon which he receives a certificate which must be surrendered to the district office upon the issuance and delivery of the patent—the patent usually not being transmitted to the district office from Washington under about one

year from the date of proving up. When the claimant makes his final proof he pays the same commissions as he paid when he made his entry, the law prescribing that one-half the commissions shall be paid at the time of making the entry and one-half at the time of proving up, but practically they are all paid at the time of making entry.

It might be advisable, especially for any one with very limited means to rent a piece of land in the vicinity of where they expect to settle, or as near as is practicable, raise a crop, and in the meantime look around a little and make a location. By this means they would have something to commence with and not have to pay out much money; besides, they would be more able, after a time, to judge of what they wanted.

#### WITHDRAWAL OF LAND.

On the 19th of October, 1870, the odd sections for twenty miles on each side of the surveyed line of the Northern Pacific Railroad were withdrawn from market by orders from the Department at Washington, in accordance with the provisions of the charter requiring such action of the Government upon the location of the route by the Company. This withdrawal extends from the Columbia river to the head of the Sound, and thence parallel with and about eight miles distant from the Sound to a point near Seattle.

The Northern Pacific Railroad Company, having learned that a large number of settlers desired to take up lands on the line of the road in advance of the surveys (as in locating before the land was surveyed they would not know which they were on, Government or Railroad land), passed the following resolution which has been ordered published:

*Resolved*, That any person may settle upon and improve lands of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company before they are brought into market, and as soon as they are appraised and ready for sale may have the first privilege of purchasing them, upon the regular terms of sale, at the regular price of such lands in such localities, which prices will be fixed without reference to the improvements.

There is no restriction respecting the price at which the Company may sell their land, until the expiration of five years after the completion of the road. After that date the Company must

sell for \$2.50 per acre. The policy of the Railroad Company, in conformity to their interests, will be to encourage settlement; and hence there can be no doubt but that every facility will be afforded for distributing the land at such a price and upon such terms as will insure a speedy settlement.

#### COST AND MODE OF CLEARING LAND.

For the benefit of those who have had little or no experience in clearing land we will here describe the plan usually adopted in the timbered lands of the Pacific Slope and especially of this region. The immigrant usually selects a favorable spot to commence, where there is a small prairie, or natural opening, or at least where there is but little large timber. After which, he clears off a space whereon to erect his cabin, usually near some stream or small branch, where there is some bottom or bench land and where there is no great amount of large timber, being mostly vine maple, some ash and soft maple, with an occasional fir, cedar or spruce.

These bottoms are generally cleared by slashing all but the large growth, felling them all one way as much as possible. The best time to do this is through the months of June or July, when the sap is at its highest. After it has lain one or two months, about August or September, fire is set to it in different places. Where there is scattering small brush it should be piled upon the larger growth. Care must be taken before fire is set that there is no brush or other inflammable substance near the dwelling or out-buildings. Some cut the vine maple off about six feet from the ground, take a yoke of cattle and chain hitch on to the top of these stubs and "snake" them out. The soil being loose and the main roots near the top of the ground, it is not difficult, having an axe close at hand to cut any root that may hold fast. We saw at one place on the Chehalis river two patches of excellent wheat, the ground for which had never been ploughed. The proprietor stated that after "snaking" out the grubs—the ground being mellow—and sowing the wheat, he took a yoke of cattle and dragged a large brush over it to smooth it down and cover the wheat. One of the patches (a few acres) referred to was volunteer, or the second year without sowing, and was then headed out nicely and promised a good crop.

The large trees are usually felled in this wise: Take a long

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shanked auger, bore two holes one above the other at an angle so they will meet some distance inside, after which some pitch fagots are lit and introduced into the upper hole, the flame causing a suction of air from the lower hole—acting something like a blow pipe. That portion of the tree inside of the sap, being more or less of a pitchy nature, burns with great rapidity and in a short time appears and roars like a huge furnace and can often be heard at a considerable distance. The outside, or sap, being watery without any pitch not burning while green, leaves the tree a shell. After the inside of the tree is pretty well burned through, the sap is chipped through on the side of the tree on which it is desired to fall, when it comes down with a terrible crash that can often be heard for miles around.

In one place we saw a spruce about fourteen feet in diameter that a settler had burned down in this manner. It continued to burn for about fifty feet, leaving a shell for that length. He stated that he was going to partition off a portion of it for a root house and use the balance for a stable. The usual price for slashing is from ten to twelve dollars per acre, cutting all down (except the large growth) and piling it up ready for burning.

The best and cheapest team a man can have in this section is a good yoke of cattle. They can make their own living, and it costs but little to rig them for work, besides they are the best adapted for the kind of work usually done on a new place.

#### GENERAL REMARKS.

We trust the description herein given will give the reader a pretty fair idea of the country. There is much good land on about all the tributaries of the rivers heretofore described that our time and space would not permit to particularize. And we give it as our candid opinion that there is no part of the world that offers greater inducements than does this Territory for the immigrant. To be sure there are some drawbacks. In the Western Division the best lands have to be cleared, roads have to be made, and for a portion of the year it rains more than we could desire. But, on the other hand, the grass growing nearly the whole year round stock requires but little attention. You can here secure land that will certainly soon be of great value, and you are sure of good crops and a good market convenient for

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all you can raise. And if you do have a superabundance of brush and timber, what you want for fencing and building purposes is convenient for use, which is worth a good deal. If you are handy to navigation much of this surplus timber can be worked to good account in furnishing the mills with logs and getting out ships' knees, making shingles and getting out staves; after which the surplus may be burned up. There is also the best of water here, and, as a consequence, good health prevails. In our travels in this Territory we generally found the people in a thriving condition; many that had almost nothing when they arrived in the country, in two or three years were quite comfortably situated, besides having secured a homestead. In these new settlements the people are generally hospitable, and the immigrant is pretty certain to receive a warm welcome, especially if he is disposed to try and help himself. They all have had to labor under difficulties, at some time or another, and know how to sympathise with others laboring under like circumstances. Although we had visited Washington Territory many years ago, and were quite familiar with a considerable portion of it, until recently, upon a close and extensive examination of her domain, we were not prepared to believe that her agricultural lands were of any great extent. Such has heretofore been the general opinion, and until recently, to a great extent, such has been our own idea on the subject.

The western division of this Territory being principally timbered and brushy, makes it difficult and not altogether pleasant (for one not a woodsman) to explore. The tourist and others usually follow the stage road from Monticello to Olympia, on the Sound; from there he takes a steamer for different points on the Sound, hardly ever putting his feet on shore. On his rounds he sees some magnificent forests and some large lumber mills, also a fine sheet of water, with much grand scenery. Passing through some prairies south of Olympia, he hears the coach wheels grating on the gravel. Seeing very little agricultural land (or very little land of any kind) on his route, he falls in with the popular idea that this is not an agricultural country; but now these lands have been sufficiently tested, in different localities, to prove beyond a doubt that they are highly productive, to which we shall refer in another part. It is very true that the immigrant will not here find farms already made, or if already

made, he may expect to pay some one for making them. Neither did the early settlers of Ohio or Indiana find farms made to hand, but had to expend much more labor to bring their lands under cultivation than it takes for the same amount of land in a large portion of this Territory.

Among the chief resources of this Territory are the extensive forests bordering upon her coasts and navigable streams. Although a large portion of these forests in the interior has been consumed by the numerous fires that have passed through them, those lying bordering on the coast, on account of the prevailing dampness, are comparatively uninjured. The lumber trade, although as yet in its infancy, is now about 150,000,000 feet annually, employing about fifty coasting vessels, besides many large vessels sailing direct to foreign ports. This section also offers great facilities for ship-building; it is now about universally conceded that the yellow fir can hardly be excelled for the purpose of ship-building. Nine vessels were built on the Sound last year, one of which was of a thousand tons burthen. Coal has been found at various points from the Columbia River to Bellingham Bay; but no extensive preparations have been made to work the mines, except at Lake Washington and Bellingham Bay. The latter mine is now being worked nine hundred feet under the waters of the Sound. It has the capacity to furnish, on board of vessels at their wharf, one hundred thousand tons of coal annually. It has now been worked about thirteen years. Extensive preparations have lately been made to develop the Lake Washington coal mines; the coal is said to be of superior quality. From the numerous deposits of coal recently found in this section, it bids fair to soon become the Pennsylvania of the Pacific.

#### DAIRYING.

Although the facilities for dairying are excellent, there being green feed nearly the year round, and the products of the dairy ready sale at a good price, an abundance of good water, the climate and all being favorable—for all that, this profitable business has so far been comparatively neglected in these parts.

#### FISHERIES.

The fisheries of the northwest coast have already attracted considerable attention, and are soon destined to become one of

the leading interests of this section; Puget Sound, with its numerous inlets and harbors, with an abundance of material for the building and equipment of fishing vessels, is the nearest available territory of the United States favorable for the curing of codfish. Several vessels have already been built here for that business, engaging in the coasting trade until the cod-fishing season arrives, when they depart for the cod-fisheries of the north, generally making two trips in one season, and usually with great success. The salmon fisheries on the Columbia are carried on in an extensive manner, to which we shall refer more particularly in our remarks on the Columbia River. The harbors, bays and creeks are literally alive with fish at certain times of the year, and can be caught by any one and in almost any manner, affording an abundance of cheap and wholesome food for the inhabitants.

#### WASHINGTON TERRITORY EAST OF THE CASCADE MOUNTAINS.

The traveller on passing eastwardly over the summit of the Cascade Mountains, is struck with the change of vegetation, climate, etc. He finds, on descending a few miles, a different variety of shrubbery and forest—the tamarack, the long-leaved, and white pine taking the place of the stately fir and cedar. The forests are generally more open, there being but little undergrowth; the surface covered with a luxuriant growth of grass, and during the summer months possess a very inviting appearance. He also finds the earth more dry, these mountains proving an effectual barrier to the prevailing rains of western Washington. On pursuing his journey still further, and on emerging out of the timbered mountain one grand panorama is presented to his view—a long succession of hills and dales, all covered with the most nutritious grass. The course of the numerous rivulets falling from the mountains can be plainly traced by a fringe of cottonwood or willow on their banks; and on raising his eyes to the horizon, can trace the blue line of some distant mountain which seems to gradually fade out of sight.

This section is also marked by a comparatively small amount of wet weather, rain seldom occurring during the summer months; in the fall, either in September or October, there is usually a spell of wet weather, lasting from one to two weeks, after which the mornings become somewhat frosty. From the

1st of November till the 20th of March, snow falls occasionally, but seldom lies on the ground more than two or three days at a time. We feel safe in saying, that for the past twenty-five years the ground has not been covered with snow on an average more than one month of each year. When the wind is from the east it is cold, but when from the south or west (which in winter is the prevailing wind), mild and pleasant. The Indians on the Columbia River call the former "Wallawalla wind," and the latter "Chinook wind;" Wallawalla being east, and Chinook west, near the coast, they say " Wallawalla wind no good, hias cold, very cold; but Chinook wind, hias close, hias warm, very good, very warm." The winter, including January and February, of 1862, was unusually cold in this section; the snow fell from one to three feet deep, according to locality, and laid on the ground for over two months; but very few whites were in this part of the country at that time. There being no provision made to feed the stock, a large portion of it perished. This section, in connection with eastern Oregon and portions of Idaho, being one vast ocean of grass, offers great inducements for those wishing to engage in the stock business. We know parties there who have had from two hundred to five hundred head of stock for the past eight years, who in all that time never provided any food for them, the only expense being to brand them and employ one or two herders to see that they do not wander off to far. But this plan of making no provender for stock we do not consider a safe one, although generally three winters out of four, stock running at large will not require any.

This section possesses a remarkably salubrious atmosphere, and is often resorted to by those of a consumptive tendency; and people who have spent a considerable portion of their lives in this section are remarkable for their robustness and vigor. This is also well illustrated in the superiority of the natives of this region, in their athletic and majestic forms.

#### THE YAKIMA RIVER

Takes its rise in the Cascade Mountains, about east of Seattle, and has an easterly course of about one hundred and fifty miles to the Columbia River, emptying into the Columbia a few miles above the mouth of Snake River. The lower part of the river is

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rather sandy and barren; but a short distance above the big rapids the country becomes very productive. The south side, from the big rapids to the Attanum River, includes an Indian Reservation, and also the best lands of this section. Some of the Indians cultivate the soil and raise considerable quantities of grain and vegetables, also raise some stock. There is a large amount of hay land on this reserve. Mr. Wilber, their agent, is generally well liked; he preaches for them on Sundays, and goes out and assists them in their farming operations through the week, setting them a practical example calculated to do them good. Through the instrumentality of Mrs. Wilber, many of the Indian women have learned to knit, sew, and perform other household duties with commendable skill.

From the mouth of the Attanum to the foot of the mountains the country along the river is very productive, and on the high-lands the grass extends as far as the eye can reach. Just above the Natchez River the high-lands close in to the river for a few miles; above this it is called Kittetash Valley, and below, Yakima Valley. Kittetash Valley has the best appearance of the two, but its altitude and close proximity to the mountains cause it to be more cold in winter, snow sometimes falling two feet in depth, and lying on the ground from one to three months. There is a considerable amount of cottonwood and some birch along this stream, to within about twenty miles of its mouth. This stream is settled, more or less, its whole length.

#### WALLAWALLA VALLEY.

This is a beautiful valley, lying at the base of the Blue Mountains, and having a gentle descent north to the Columbia River. Interspersed through it are numerous small rivulets, in places fringed with alder, balm and birch, giving it a very picturesque appearance. This section is well adapted to the production of wheat, barley, corn and oats, of which large quantities are raised. The fruits, such as apples, peaches, pears, plums, cherries, gooseberries and currants, are raised in great abundance and of the best quality. Irrigation is seldom practiced or required, except for late vegetables. The principal valley is thickly settled by an intelligent, industrious and thriving population, many of whom are largely engaged in the stock business, for which the surrounding country is well adapted. On ascending the higher

lands, in leaving Wallawalla Valley, we had a very fine view of the city and valley. The skirts of timber along the many small brooks putting out of the foothills, dotted by numerous farm-houses, orchards and fields, combined in presenting a grand scene. On ascending the high or table land we found it to be very good soil, the surface generally rolling, but considerable portions of it quite level, and all covered with a good growth of bunch grass, capable of sustaining thousands of cattle or other stock. The grass on the low land was (this was in the middle of September) dried up, but as we approached the mountains it became quite green and the ground moist. We account for this by the snow lying on the ground later near the mountains, but more particularly on account of occasional showers that follow the mountain ranges, but seldom extend into the low country. This is the case throughout all this country. On the low lands, with the exception of the creek or river bottoms, that are kept moist by the flow of water contiguous to them, the grass usually dries up by the first of July, but still retains its nutritious and fattening qualities. The numerous streams flowing from the Blue Mountains all have more or less rich valley land lying along their course, that is highly productive, and within a radius of forty miles of Wallawalla, is now mostly settled, although on the high-lands and near the foothills of the Blue Mountains there are many eligible locations yet to be found. The inhabitants procure their lumber and best timber from the Blue Mountains, there being generally an easy grade down into the valley. They often use trail-wagons—two or three wagons coupled together to one team—hauling very large loads.

#### WALLAWALLA CITY

Is a town of considerable importance, being a central depot for the surrounding country, and also carrying on a considerable trade with the mining regions of Montana and Idaho. It is not uncommon in the streets to see a train of fifty or a hundred mules heavily loaded, *a la* old California style, for some distant mining camp.

A railroad is now about to be built, leading from this city to Wallulu, on the Columbia River, and will eventually connect with the Northern Pacific Railroad.

## ROUTES.

There are three principal routes of approach to this Territory. One by steamer from San Francisco to Portland; thence by river steamer to Monticello; and from Monticello by stage, eighty-five miles, to Olympia. Another by steamer twice a month from San Francisco to Victoria, B. C.; from Victoria by steamer twice a week to Olympia and all points on the Sound. And also, leaving the Central Pacific Railroad at Kelton, then by stage to Wallawalla, *via* Boise City, Idaho. This would be the preferable route for eastern Washington, with much interesting scenery along the way. Families going this route might do well to purchase a team before leaving the railroad; they could travel cheaper that way, and have their team after they got through. The fare from San Francisco to Olympia, *via* Portland by steamer, is, from San Francisco to Portland, \$15 steerage, and \$30 in the cabin; thence to Monticello, \$1; thence by stage to Olympia, \$10. Time, six days. The fare to Victoria at present is the same as to Portland; and from Victoria to Olympia, by steamer, \$5; intermediate points less. The fare by stage from Kelton, on Central Pacific Railroad, to Wallawalla, is \$75; time, four days; distance, 450 miles.

## TABLE OF DISTANCES.

From Olympia south by Stage-road :

To first crossing of the Chehalis.....	30	miles.
To Claquato.....	7	"
To McDonald's.....	12	"
To Pumphries.....	14	"
To Jackson's, on Arkansas Creek.....	10	"
To Monticello, on the Cowalitz.....	12	"
From Olympia to Monticello.....	85	"

This last named place has daily communication (by steamer) with Portland, Oregon; distance, 50 miles.

From Olympia, north, by semi-weekly steamers:

To Steilacoom.....	20	miles.
To Tacoma.....	30	"
To Seattle.....	50	"
To Port Madison.....	60	"
To Port Gamble.....	85	"
To Port Ludlow.....	92	"
To Port Townsend.....	105	"
To Victoria, B. C.....	140	"

## From Olympia to Seattle, by land:

“	“	Steilacoom.....	22 miles.
“	“	Puyalup.....	16 “
“	“	White River.....	16 “
“	“	Black River Ferry.....	10 “
“	“	Seattle.....	12 “

Total from Olympia to Seattle..... 76

## From Seattle to Wallawalla, eastward:

“	“	Clymer's, on Black River .....	11 miles.
“	“	Squak.....	9 “
“	“	Snoqualmie River.....	18 “
“	“	Summit .....	23 “
“	“	Lake Kitchelas.....	5 “
“	“	Thorp's.....	24 “
“	“	Wallula.....	130 “
“	“	Wallawalla .....	32 “

Total from Seattle to Wallawalla..... 252

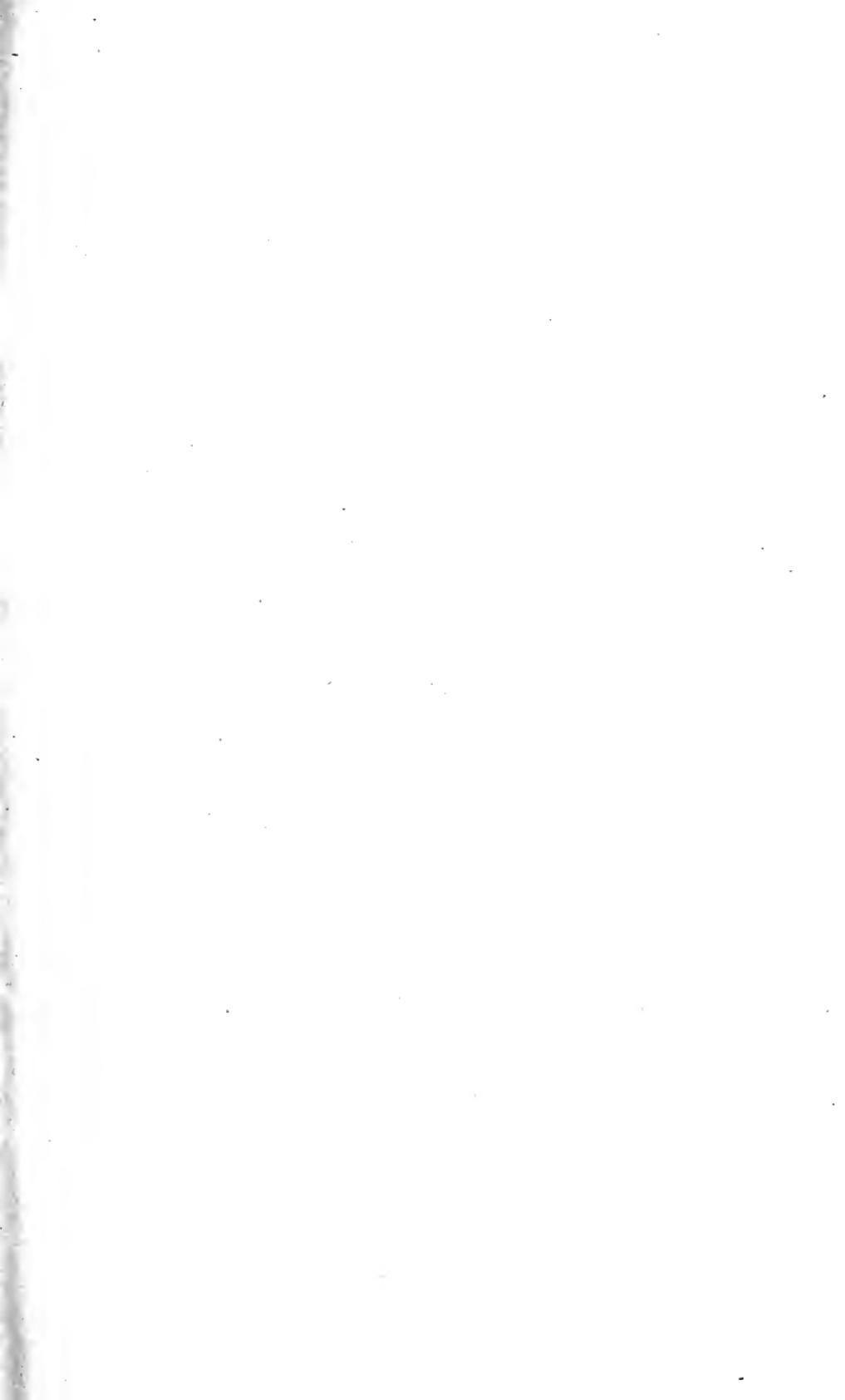
A wagon-road on this route over the Cascade Mountains is passable from June till October.

The first section of the Northern Pacific Railroad, of twenty-five miles, commencing at Kalama, on the Columbia River, is now about finished, and within one year will probably reach Puget Sound.

East of Wallawalla, on the line of the Northern Pacific Railroad to the Cœur d'Alene Mountains, is a large and extensive tract of country that for grazing purposes cannot be excelled, and much of it is well adapted for farming purposes; water is scarce in places, but a considerable portion of it is well watered; very little timber, except on the mountains.

Now that there is a certainty of the Northern Pacific Railroad being shortly built, this section is attracting considerable attention, and a number of settlers have located in that region the past summer. The climate is much the same as that of Wallawalla—perhaps a little colder in portions of it. For a more full description of this eastern section of the country and its resources, see our description of the Columbia and eastern Oregon.





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